

## Message Text

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47

ACTION SSM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 IO-11 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 SAB-01 L-03 IGA-02 ACDA-05 DODE-00

OC-05 CCO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /070 W

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O R 171635Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 151

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION SINAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 2074

SFM FOR KONTOS FROM THORNE

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG IS

SUBJECT: PRESS MATTERS

REF: (A) STATE 037596; (B) CAIRO 2014

1. GENERAL SIILASVUO MET FOR TWO HOURS WITH GENERAL MAGDUB AND OTHER GOE REPRESENTATIVES TODAY. THIS AFTERNOON HE BRIEFED ME ON THE RESULTS OF THAT SESSION AS IT APPLIES TO PRESS OPERATIONS AND FUTURE PRESS POLICY.

2. ON FEBRUARY 22 THE EGYPTIAN PRESS WILL BE INVITED TO THE EGYPTIAN BOUNDARY AT CHECKPOINT ALFA WHERE THERE WILL BE FLAG RAISING CEREMONY FOLLOWED BY A BRIEFING BY THE UNEF COMMANDER, LT. GENERAL LILJESTRAND. FOLLOWING THIS THE EGYPTIAN PRESS WILL BE TAKEN TO E-1 (THE FLAG IS ALREADY UP). WHEN ASKED BY GENERAL SIILASVUO WHETHER THE EGYPTIAN PRESS WOULD VISIT THE SFM THE ANSWER WAS "NO".

2. GENERAL SIILASVUO STATED THAT IF THE ISRAELIS PRESS CAME THEY WOULD BE RECEIVED AT CHECKPOINT CHARLIE IN GIDDI EAST PASS AND GIVEN A BRIEFING BY LT. GENERAL  
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LILJESTRAND THERE BUT WOULD NOT BE INVITED TO ENTER THE

BUFFER ZONE, SINCE ISRAELIS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR NONE WILL BE INVITED TO VISIT J-1. THIS DECISION FOLLOWED OUR DISCUSSION AS TO WHETHER THE ISRAELI PRESS MIGHT REQUEST A VISIT TO THE SFM.

3. GENERAL SIILASVUO SAID THAT HE HAD INFORMED THE GOE REPRESENTATIVES THAT "POST FEBRUARY 22" UN PRESS POLICY IN THE BUFFER ZONE WOULD BE THAT ANY ENTRY BY THE PRESS WOULD BE A UN DECISION. FOR EXAMPLE, HE STATED THAT IF THE EGYPTIAN PRESS WISHED TO VISIT E-1 HE WOULD OF COURSE MAKE THE DECISION AFTER ASCERTAINING THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT'S APPROVAL. HE SAID THAT NO REFERENCE TO "POST FEBRUARY 22" VISITS BY THE ISRAELI PRESS TO THE BUFFER ZONE HAD BEEN MADE.

4. GENERAL SIILASVUO MADE NO DISTINCTION IN REFERRING TO THE "EGYPTIAN PRESS" AND THE "ISRAELI PRESS" AS TO WHETHER JOURNALISTS WERE EGYPTIAN OR ISRAELI OR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS STATIONED IN EACH COUNTRY. HE HAS IN THE PAST TENDED TO LUMP THEM TOGETHER FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRESS POLICY AS OUTLINED ABOVE.

5. GENERAL SIILASVUO MADE A SPECIAL POINT OF ASKING WHETHER OR NOT THERE WOULD BE A CEREMONY AT THE SFM BASE CAMP AND STATED THAT HE WOULD WISH TO ATTEND BUT COULD NOT COME UNTIL ABOUT 1400 HOURS. I STATED THAT VERIFICATION INSPECTIONS WOULD BE HELD AS ORIGINALLY AGREED COMMENCING 0800 AND THAT, IF ALL COMMUNICATION AND EQUIPMENT CHECKS WERE POSITIVE, WOULD SEND THE TELEGRAM ACTIVATING THE SFM AT 1200. HE WOULD BE WELCOME TO COME AT 1400 HOURS WHEN I PROPOSED TO ADDRESS SFM PERSONNEL WHO WERE NOT ON DUTY PRIMARILY TO THANK THEM FOR ALL THEY HAVE DONE TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO ACTIVATE THE SFM ON FEBRUARY 22. GENERAL SIILASVUO INDICATED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SAY A FEW WORDS TO EXPRESS HIS ADMIRATION OF WHAT THE SFM PERSONNEL HAD DONE IN SO SHORT A TIME AND TO ASSURE THEM OF HIS CONTINUING INTEREST IN THE PROGRAM AND THEIR WELLBEING. IN ADDITION TO THE GUESTS AT THAT OCCASION MENTIONED IN REF B GENERAL SIILASVUO ASKED IF HE COULD BRING MR. JONAH FROM THE OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL FROM THE DEPARTMENT HE WILL BE INVITED. AFTER THE REMARKS BY GENERAL SIILASVUO THERE WILL HOPEFULLY BE A GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE (PROBABLY IN A PAPER CUP) FOR EVERYONE AND EVERYONE WILL THEN

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GO BACK TO WORK.  
EILTS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, WARNING SYSTEMS, TRACKING STATIONS, THE PRESS, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchant0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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